

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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FOUR POLICEMEN IN A JEEP

Crossing Africa the hard way

In a bright yellow jeep, four troopers of the British South Africa Police have made a gallant attempt to drive diagonally across Africa. They reached London by air after their tough little car had finally expired in the sand dunes of the Sahara on the way to Algiers.

THE doughty quartet, stationed in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia's capital, were planning leave in England when one suggested this unusual and hazardous way of getting there. Soon their vehicle was roaring off north-eastwards to Portuguese East Africa.

Traversing little Nyasaland, they were speeding parallel with the 450 miles of Lake Tanganyika when trouble began. By the time they reached Costermansville, the

Belgian Congo town overlooking the lovely lake Kivu Sergeant Stewart Alford's log recorded petrol stoppages, faulty steering, a jammed accelerator.

Nevertheless, they pushed on, through dense humid forest inhabited by gorillas. Then, near Lake Edward, bordering Uganda and the Equator, came one of the most exciting incidents. As the jeep bumped along a rough track, Sergeant Jack Berry and Constable David Craven stood to take cine shots. Perched on a front mud-guard with another camera was Sergeant Alford.

SCHOOLGIRLS LOCKED UP WITH A SECRET

What happens if an examination candidate is accidentally given tomorrow's questions? If nothing were done about it, he and his friends would have an excellent chance of getting high marks next day.

Such a mistake landed six 15-year-old Danish schoolgirls under lock and key not long ago. At the annual State examination a school inspector opened the wrong sealed envelope at the first day's session. It contained the subject for the essay to be written the following day. As this exam takes place at the same time in schools all over Denmark, the essay subject was indeed a "State secret."

Before the inspector discovered his mistake six girls had received the paper and studied it. Frantically the inspector telephoned the Ministry of Education who, after giving him their opinion of his blunder, ordered that the six girls should be locked up until the following day, so that they could not reveal the secret.

However, the imprisonment was of a mild sort. The wives of the headmaster and the school caretaker provided extra special meals and sweets for the prisoners, who amused themselves playing games and, perhaps, doing a bit of quiet thinking about that essay subject!

TRAWLER IN TROUBLE

The Grimsby trawler *Returno* recently steamed into Scarborough harbour with her sirens hooting, and crowds gathered while a boat put out to ascertain what the trouble was.

Fortunately, it was not serious trouble—the trawler had merely run out of tea, and two pounds were taken out to her to ensure that all hands would get their eleven and four o'clock beverages as usual.

ANGRY HIPPO

Suddenly a lone hippo appeared and started to trot along with them, 20 yards away. Craven shouted a warning as it came charging across the parched scrub; Driver Bill Hollington swung the wheel over hard; Alford scrambled from the mudguard and fell across the windscreen. As the massive hippo blundered by, scraping the running-board, the jeep went zig-zagging into the bush with the "snapshotters" hanging on!

With over 1500 miles behind them, the four men struck into the Congo's heart, driving all night in torrential rain through the Ituri Forest, home of primitive pygmies. Regions of ancient volcanoes and snow-capped peaks gave way to more arid lands, then to the border of French Equatorial Africa.

Ill-fortune dogged them again. After a surprise meeting with another venturer—a lone-wolf English colonel from the Sudan—they found themselves with a broken front spring, stranded at a fort. They drank ten gallons of water that night!

SAHARA AHEAD!

Leaving Fort Lamy, they crossed the French Cameroons by night, and headed for Kano, Northern Nigeria. Despite two burst tyres and a broken axle, they chugged into this town, then set off along reasonably good tarmac for the French West Africa border. But such roads were limited; the jeep again confronted bumpy tracks.

Dawn found the four men deep in the lonely Niger Colony. Ahead lay the forbidding Sahara and the worst lap of all—520 miles to Tamanrasset in Algeria.

Stout hearts and skilled fingers conquered this stretch; soon they were only 500 miles from Algiers.

Continued on page 2

Handing-on the Olympic Torch



On Saturday the Olympic Torch will reach the Stadium at Helsinki for the ceremonial opening of the Games. Kindled by the sun's rays in the ancient Greek village of Olympia, the torch has been carried across Europe by air and by relays of 342 runners.

See Torch of Peace, on page 6

JUST WILLIAM

William is a black mongrel dog who usually contrives to disgrace himself at the annual Essex Show.

Two years ago he achieved notoriety by gobbling up a chicken which had been prepared for an important guest's lunch. This year he distinguished himself by disposing of all but one of a plateful of prize-winning cakes in the Young Farmers' section.

All the visitors to the show knew about William's guilt, for the solitary cake was displayed on a plate with the notice: The rest of these cakes were eaten by the dog William from the tent opposite."

Seated in that other tent, William simply licked his chops.

FLYING DOCTOR TO THE RESCUE

This is another dramatic story of a life-saving trip made by one of Australia's flying doctors.

Dr. Geoffrey Young, an Englishman, is a flying doctor with headquarters in a remote New South Wales town which was flooded when the Lachlan river overflowed.

Realising that the people of Bederbong were in the direct path of the surging flood, he took off in his Auster aircraft to fly to the little town, and there came down in a small paddock which was previously considered an impossible landing-place.

The townspeople were reluctant to leave, but he finally persuaded

the women and children to fly out with him to his own property, ten miles away.

He flew load after load. Then, as he circled the town with the last passengers, the flood swept in.

Fortunately the men had taken to higher ground, but they were three days without food before being rescued.

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FINLAND HOLDS FAST TO INDEPENDENCE

By the CN Diplomatic Correspondent

IF countries were given marks for admirable qualities, somewhere near the top of the list would be Finland, a country which is very much in the news this month because its capital is the scene of the Olympic Games.

Britons pride themselves on their self-control, and perhaps also on being reticent. The French consider that the zest and spirit which they sum up in their word, *élan*, is their national characteristic. Some countries claim gaiety, some fortitude, and others independence as their national quality.

Finland, the country that asks for no testimonials from anyone, and whose voice is seldom heard in world debates, seems to have all the best qualities to an unusual degree. Certainly, Finland is a country of sturdy independence, as she has proved time and again in her history.

Olympic coin



The 500-mark coin minted by Finland in honour of the Olympic Games at Helsinki.

Lying hard against the Iron Curtain, she is one of the few of Russia's neighbours who have remained impervious to Soviet influence—to the astonishment of the rest of the world, and even of Russia herself. By their common-sense and their lack of fear, and at the same time by their refusal to take part in power politics, the Finns are on neighbourly terms not only with Russia but also with the West.

The stocky, athletic Finns seem to have few worries. They have their own Parliamentary democracy with a President as the head of their Republic. Their country of summer sunshine and winter snows with reindeer legends is their own, and it is their firm determination to keep it so.

NEUTRAL POLICY

Sometimes the Western nations have suggested that Finland should have a greater part in the pattern of the free democracies of Europe. But Finland has declined.

Equally, the Finns pay no special regard to the occasional rumbles of complaint from her vast neighbour, Russia.

Of all neutral countries in a world of conflicting opinions, Finland is the one which most sternly guards her neutrality. She has no intention whatever of taking sides.

Nevertheless, her people realise that if tempers between East and West were lost, Finland could easily be trampled underfoot.

The Finnish Prime Minister, however, suggested some time ago that Norway and Denmark should consider the blessings of neutrality. As both these countries—unlike Sweden—are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the Finnish leader was really

arguing that the whole of Scandinavia would do well to be neutral.

He did not press the point, but some statesmen wondered rather gloomily if he had only made it because Russia wanted him to do so. For neutrality throughout Scandinavia would please the Soviets, who resent and suspect the Atlantic Pact.

The pessimists added that Finland could hardly have an independent foreign policy, because she was far too close to Russia and would have to consider any suggestion outside her own borders in relation to Russia's views.

HAPPY OMEN

Here was the first sign, they said, that Finland was beginning to give way before the heavy persuasion of the Soviets.

Norway and Denmark, of course, are unwaveringly loyal to the Atlantic Pact, and Finland could have little hope of persuading them to change their minds. She was merely expressing a genuine view that a detached outlook amid all the partisan flurry in the world has a lot to recommend it.

It would be quite wrong to assume that the Finns are becoming a foil for Soviet plans. That is something Finland wants to avoid at all costs.

Russian athletes are due to take part in the Olympic Games, the first time since 1912 at Stockholm. May it prove a happy omen for the future.

FOUR POLICEMEN IN A JEEP

Continued from page 1

Into the hot dunes went the yellow jeep, the aim being to gather speed and rush the soft sandy stretches.

For a time all went well. Then the front wheels suddenly slewed round. Jack Berry was wrestling madly to straighten out when above the engine's roar they heard a sickening crack. The steering-column had snapped. The jeep had clocked 4500 arduous miles, but touring days were over!

There were the four adventurers, stuck fast in the middle of the Sahara, their truck useless! Fortunately, French military authorities had radio news of their progress, and they had food for a week. Broiling heat, flies, and whirling sandstorms made the wait far from pleasant, and great was their relief when, far ahead, they spotted the long file of a French Camel Corps patrol.

Soon they were back in Kano, where they took a plane to England—four travel-stained troopers whose brave attempt to cross a continent in a jeep had only just failed.

But they had no regrets. "It crippled us financially," says Sergeant Alford, "but it was worth it!"

AFRICAN LEADERS IN THE MAKING

Thirty young Nigerians have just finished a Government-sponsored course of training for leadership quite unlike anything which Africa has previously known.

At Man o' War Bay training centre in the Nigerian Cameroons there are no certificates and no examinations. Each young man is expected to show his quality by joining in road-making or bridge-building.

These young Africans go in for the tough jobs in order to learn by doing. On one course they built a bridge by hewing down a huge tree, shaping it, and then dragging it by man-power into position across the stream.

Most of them were unable to swim when they came to the camp, but they all learned during their month by the sea.

Each man was expected to help in running the camp, drawing water, getting food, and making decisions about order and cleanliness.

The European planners of the scheme did things with the Africans which was a new experience for everyone. Man o' War Bay believes the best community life is one made by our own efforts.

Jet speedboat



Mr. and Mrs. Hanning-Lee in the jet-engine hydrofoil which they have designed for an attempt to beat the world's water-speed record of 178.4 m.p.h. The boat, called White Hawk, has dual controls and a double cockpit.

LEEDS CHARTER FOUND

Lost manuscripts of historic importance sometimes turn up unexpectedly.

A Canterbury bookseller not long ago was going through some books he had bought at a village sale, when he came upon three big sheets of vellum which he thought might be useful for lampshades.

On second thoughts he decided they might be of some importance, and showed them to Canterbury's archivist.

They turned out to be the Great Charter of Leeds, granted by Charles I in 1626, which disappeared presumably about the time of Cromwell and had remained untraced for over 300 years.

It is to be restored to the Yorkshire city.

News From Everywhere

MUSIC WHILE THEY MILK

New Zealand dairy farmers with wireless sets in their milking sheds have asked the New Zealand Broadcasting Service to provide special early-morning programmes.

Gavin Petersen, aged 12, picked up oyster shells at Durban containing three pearls worth about £200.

Colin Fulks, a nine-year-old cub attached to the 12th Horley Scout Troop has been awarded the Cornwell Medal—the Scouts' V.C. Colin has undergone five brain operations, but has never complained.

Lifeboats helped 55 ships and aeroplanes in distress and saved 21 lives last month, the busiest June in time of peace.

A collection of 100 valuable books on Alchemy will be on view at the Science Museum, South Kensington, until September. Alchemy was practised in the Middle Ages in the hope of finding the Philosopher's Stone which would turn base metals into gold.

SMALLEST STAR

Minneapolis astronomers claim to have discovered the smallest star ever seen by man. It is 2500 miles in diameter—slightly larger than the moon—and is 25 light years away.

Airmen flying Tiger Moths, have spread 45,000 tons of fertiliser over 428,000 acres of New Zealand sheep pasture-land in the past year. This "aerial topdressing" may mean more meat and wool for Britain.

Colfe's Grammar School in Lewisham, London, has been celebrating its 300th anniversary.

Tasmania's Labour Government recently completed 18 years of continuous office.

Boys of Fairlop Secondary School, Essex, have designed and built a sports pavilion at a cost of £80; they used timber from an old cycle shed.

Miss Florence Horsburgh, the Minister of Education, aims to provide one million extra school places by the end of 1956.

BOUNCING A SHIP

A New York pier has been fitted with hollow rubber cushions so that the 53,300-ton liner United States can "bounce" when docking.

Elementary education is to be made compulsory in the Western Region of Nigeria in 1955.

New Zealand has more than 160,000 horses—excluding thoroughbreds—and 40,000 tractors.

Christopher Hartzman, aged eight, has crossed the Atlantic five times. He recently left Erith, Kent, where he had been visiting his grandparents, to rejoin his parents in America.

A TV audience estimated at 30 million recently watched part of a major operation in progress at a Chicago hospital.

India is importing 88 locomotives from Britain this year.

Any Scout in full uniform may visit the Festival Pleasure Gardens, Battersea Park, free, on July 21.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Italian farmer Luigi Costa went to Rome to have his grey hair dyed brown. When he went home his watchdog bit him.

A Yarmouth drifter using new fish-detecting equipment located a herring shoal 1½ miles long. About 130,000 fish were caught.

A new church in Stamford, Connecticut, is to have a cross made from two beams given by the late Dr. William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury. Thirteenth-century nails from the bombed cathedral at Coventry will be used in a smaller cross.

A new London telephone exchange to be opened in 1954 will be called LORD'S, after the famous cricket ground.

BOSTON TEA-PARTY

London busmen, touring America on a good will mission, recently made tea for the Daughters of the Revolution at Boston, on the same spot where Bostonians, protesting against a tax levied by King George III, threw tea into the harbour.

A flock of gulls recently broke the windscreen and radio aerial of a plane flying over Liverpool airport.

Parkinson's

BONCASTER

EST. 1817.

Old Fashioned Humbugs

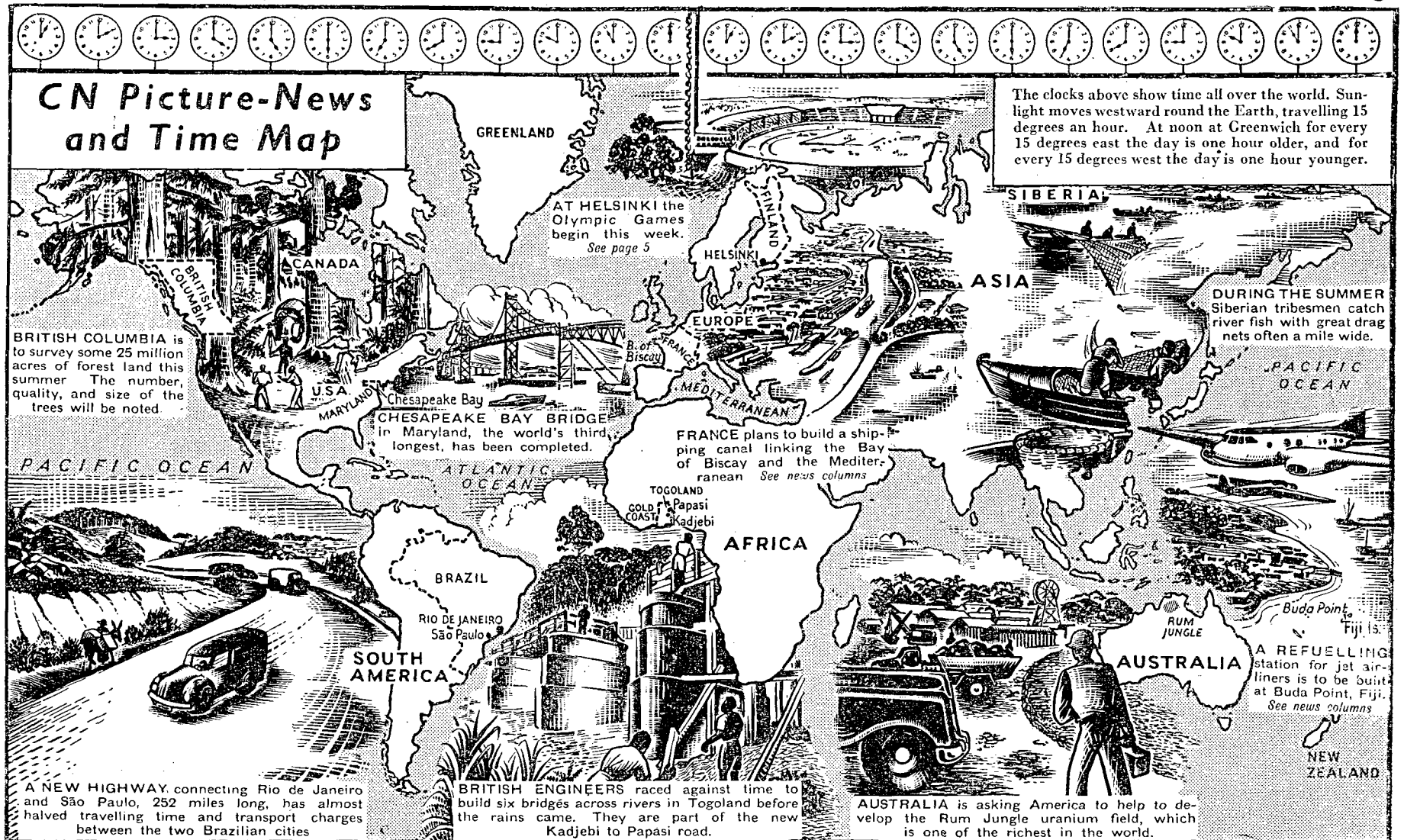
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URANIUM FROM THE JUNGLE

Australia's Northern Territory is on the verge of a new and vigorous development following the discovery of uranium in Rum Jungle, some 60 miles south-west of Darwin.

The extent of the field is unknown, but scientists think it may prove to be one of the biggest sources of radio-active material in the world. Rocks of the pre-Cambrian group, where uranium is likely to be found, are estimated to occupy an area of at least 500,000 square miles.

Rum Jungle, with its palm trees

and dense tropical foliage, is at present a quiet spot, where the workings are similar to any mine in its preliminary stages. An unsuccessful attempt to attract settlers to Rum Jungle was made in 1876, but the lure of uranium in the Atomic Age may this time succeed in populating the jungle.

Miners, however, will not be able to stake claims as in the days of the gold rushes, for the Government has reserved the authority to control production of uranium for industrial and defence purposes.

See World Map

EARLY MUSIC AT HASLEMERE

In the charming little town of Haslemere, amid some of the most beautiful scenery in Surrey, music-lovers will gather next week to hear the masterpieces of earlier centuries performed on the instruments for which they were written.

This is the 27th of the Haslemere Festivals, founded by Arnold Dolmetsch. His son Carl is the Musical Director, and other members of the family assist him, as well as additional artists.

Among the works to be played are those of Bach, Handel, Purcell, Locke, and early Italian, Spanish, and French masters.

On Tuesday, July 22, at 3.15, there is to be a Children's Concert, with a varied programme for recorders, viols, harpsichord, and clavichord.

Other instruments used at the Festival are the organ, lute, treble viol, and violin.

CONDUCTORS' EXAM

A unique examination, for the apprentice conductorship of the Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra, was held in Leeds recently. The scholarship, worth £300, is the only one of its kind in the country.

The five entrants first had an oral examination, then each had to conduct the full orchestra for half an hour. The winner was 25-year-old Brian Priestman of Birmingham.

TREASURE-HUNT

An added attraction at Scarborough this summer is a half-size model of the Hispaniola lying on an inland stretch of water known as the Mere.

The ship, manned by characters out of Treasure Island, takes children to an island in the middle of the lake, where they can dig on the sandy shores for doubloons and pieces-of-eight which the Corporation regularly bury there.

CAPTAIN COOK PAINTS CAPTAIN COOK

Captain James Cook is going to paint a portrait of Captain James Cook.

If that sounds rather confusing, let us explain that Captain James Cook is a fine artist—until recently he was curator of the West Australian Art Gallery—and that he is going to copy a portrait of his famous namesake. He is to make a copy of the portrait in Canberra, the original of which, painted by Nathaniel Dance, hangs at Greenwich.

He is painting this for an American lady who is anxious to have a portrait of the great explorer and cannot find one for sale.

Fire music



Dr. D. H. Follett of the Science Museum is here seen playing a pyrophone organ. Notes are produced by gas flames in a series of glass tubes. It was invented by Frederick Kastner, a physicist, and first appeared in London 77 years ago.

CANAL THROUGH FRANCE

Ships from Britain and North Atlantic ports may one day sail through France to reach the Mediterranean.

The French Parliament are considering plans for building a 310-mile canal, linking the Bay of Biscay and the Mediterranean. It would begin at the Gironde Estuary, and then follow the Garonne and the Aude valleys, to emerge in the Mediterranean between Narbonne and Beziers.

Vessels using the canal would save from three days to a week on their trips. The journey from London to Marseilles, for example, would be cut by half.

Another great advantage of the plan is that it would provide France with a great hydro-electric scheme producing more than 2000 million kilowatts a year. The canal would take about eight years to build, and probably cost some £500,000,000. See World Map

HEBRIDEAN HOLIDAY

The annual Sheilings of the Hebrides are now in full swing.

At this time of year the women and children of a certain district in the Island of Lewis take the cattle to the moorland and there spend the summer living in simple "airidhs" or sheilings. These are small stone buildings with turf roofs, each having an opening through which smoke from a peat fire can escape.

The children enjoy roaming the moor and fishing for trout in the lochs; the women milk the cows, make beautiful creamy butter and girdle scones, and card the wool from the black-faced sheep from which Harris tweed is made.

TUNNEL TROUBLE

Air pumps and petrol pumps have been installed at the entrances of the Mersey Tunnel.

Last year over six million vehicles used the tunnel, and there were as many as 3534 breakdowns, largely due to cars running out of petrol and to tyre trouble.

FUEL FOR JETS AT FIJI

An oil company is to build a £150,000 air station at Fiji to refuel jet airliners which are due to start on the Canada-America-Australia service at the end of the year. By 1954 the fuel needs of aircraft at Fiji will be trebled, and reach 4½ million gallons a year.

At the station tankers will pump kerosene to shore reservoirs through a submarine pipeline which they will pick up at sea.

The jets are expected to reduce the journey from San Francisco to Sydney from 36 to 24 hours' flying time. See World Map

TV LOGARITHMS

New Zealand's first television transmission consisted of a student reading from a book of logarithms for half an hour!

The experiment was made recently from Canterbury University College, Christchurch, on the 405-line system used by the BBC.



Jumping for joy

These Sea Cadets from New Zealand are performing the Haka, a traditional Maori dance. The cadets are over here for the Empire Sea Cadet camp in H.M.S. Osprey at Portland.

SIGNPOSTS ALONG A STONE AGE TRACK

The discovery of two more "pagan stones" in the village of Nayland, in Suffolk, throws light on the curving 200-mile route along which our Stone Age ancestors travelled from Chesham, Buckinghamshire, in a wide sweep northwards through the eastern counties to Thetford, Norfolk, and thence on to the Wash.

For a long time it puzzled archaeologists to explain how Stone Age man found his way so unerringly to the celebrated prehistoric flint quarry at Thetford,

known as Grimes Graves, to procure precious material for making tools and weapons. In those days England was a waste land of swamp and forest and it must have been very easy to get lost.

Three years ago a line of boulders was discovered which led northwards through the eastern counties in a great semi-circle, touching at St. Albans, Marks Tey, and Thurston.

It was quickly recognised that these boulders were really signposts marking the track. Obviously they were sighting stones, for they were set close enough for one to be seen from the next in line. More curiously still, every boulder, without exception, was composed of a rock known as "pudding-stone," that is a composite rock of rounded pebbles set in a hard foundation.

Not all of those rocks have been found, but as the ancient pathway keeps to the sand and gravel of the uplands, avoiding both the chalk on one side and the clay on the other, the whole line of the route can easily be traced. At every crossing of a river, the shallow ford is invariably marked by a pudding-stone.

The skin-clad wayfarers who trod this track 5000 years ago in quest of the highly-prized Norfolk flints appear to have had their cultural centre at Chesham, for here there is a circle of huge pudding-stones which were also used in the foundations of the ancient Chesham church.

THIS KIND WORLD

Misfortune overtook Mr. King, a Paddington greengrocer, when through overwork his health broke down and he had to go into hospital. To support his family he was obliged to sell his pony and cart, and his business.

When he left hospital the prospect was bleak, but Our Dumb Friends' League came to the rescue. They bought him another pony, harness, and trolley, and helped to buy his stock as a greengrocer.

Now Mr. King's ambition is to pay back to the League the money spent on his behalf.

In the Air

By the C.N. Flying Correspondent

Dutch visitor

SHORTLY to undergo tests in this country is the Fokker S.14, a two-seat jet trainer built in Holland and powered by a British Rolls-Royce Derwent engine. It is also fitted with a British undercarriage.

Designed specially for training jet pilots, it has a far better all-round performance than the many converted jet fighters now in use as advanced training aircraft.

The S.14 may be adopted as the standard jet trainer for the air forces of Western Europe.

Banner contest

AIRCRAFT in an unusual contest at Dusseldorf, Germany, recently had to snatch a 30-yard banner from between two posts, climb away as steeply as possible, and then make the smallest possible turn in the air.

A Belgian pilot, Jimmy Bogazts, won the contest in a British Auster Autocrat, after competing with a Fieseler Storch, which was Germany's leading spotter plane during the war.

Getting a lift

A BRISTOL Sycamore helicopter lately completed a 1500-mile tour of Europe, visiting six cities—Brussels, The Hague, Hamburg, Copenhagen, Oslo, and Stockholm. Greetings from the Lord Mayor of Bristol were delivered to the principal civic official in each of these cities.

To save time, the Sycamore journeyed between the cities stowed in the capacious hold of a Bristol Freighter.

In Belgium the helicopter was used on a 250-mile mail delivery run; it completed the route in 45 minutes less than the helicopters normally employed.

French jetliner

PLANS for a twin-jet airliner with a capacity for 60 passengers have been prepared in France. Known as the S.60C, it has been designed for short and medium range routes.

One of the many novel features of the machine is the installation of two small jets which will be used to assist the main engines during take-off and in an emergency.

Flying boat cradle

A DEVICE that enables flying boats to taxi ashore and run about on land in the same way as any other aircraft has been produced by Convair.

It consists of a 20,000-lb. amphibious cradle in the form of twin pontoons, and is fitted with four motors. It is driven alongside the taxiing flying boat by an operator sitting at the controls in one of the pontoons. He fastens it to the plane by means of steel cables; then the lower part of the cradle is raised to cushion the hull.

The pilot is then ready to taxi up the ramp and leave his aircraft at one of the dispersal points on the shore.

HELSINKI, GENEROUS HOST TO THE OLYMPIC ATHLETES

Helsinki is the smallest city to play host to the Olympiad since the days of Ancient Greece.

But those who follow the Olympic Torch to the capital of the "land of a thousand lakes" will not be disappointed in its resting-place; for this White City of the North, whose busy port breasts the Baltic, is a great capital in miniature.

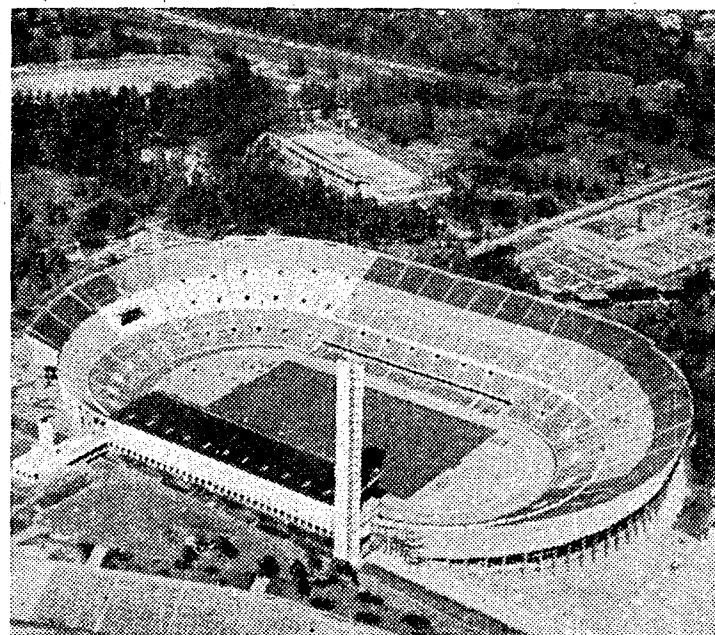
EVER since Helsinki was suddenly transformed from a fishing village into the first city of Finland, less than 150 years ago, she has had one great advantage over most of the world's capitals; she was designed for her purpose, and all her buildings, though conforming to the styles of their various periods, have a unity which lends the city a serene charm and sense of space.

The sea is her lifeline, so that the traffic of the Baltic seems as much a part of the city itself as the rattling single-decker trams and cars. The lively open market is

among the flowers and silver streams, and fountains make their own gay music.

But those who go to Finland for the Games will marvel most perhaps at the beauty of the new Stadium. Erected for the Olympiad which should have been held there in 1940, this dazzling white building, with its tremendous arena flanked by tiers of grandstands, is topped by a slender tower almost too slim, it seems, for its low base.

In winter it stands out against the clear blue sky and frosted landscape like a building cut from snow. In summer its graceful



An airman's view of the Stadium at Helsinki

held on the quayside, and ocean-going liners appear to invade the very life of the capital.

The impressive pile of the modern railway station, with its streamlined clock-tower and wide entrance hall, gives a wonderful reception to visitors. There is an air of brisk efficiency about the station which is at once satisfying and reassuring.

Equally impressive is the great Parliament building—Diet House, which is also of Finnish granite and stands foursquare to all the winds that blow.

In one of Helsinki's quiet squares lies the Great Church, built in Russian style. This silent white building, with its shallow steps leading up to open doors, has a cool serenity which is in keeping with the austere calm beauty of the snows.

On the outskirts of the city is the Children's Castle, where nurses are trained and children receive their early education. Set among dark firs, this castle looks as if it belongs to a coloured book of fairy tales.

Much of Helsinki has that fairy quality, for it abounds in parklands where children can play

tower stretches up above the green trees and almost sparkles in the warm sunshine.

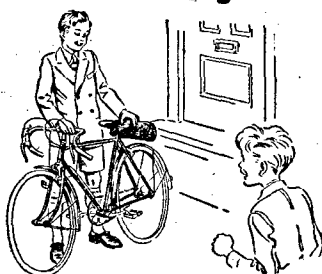
About six miles from the Stadium, set on a pine-fringed strip of land, is a tiny model town called Otaniemi (Tech Town), built by the young people of Finland with their own hands. Because Helsinki itself is so small it could not possibly have accommodated all the visitors who will flock there for the Games; so the Student Body of the Polytechnic Institute created this little town specially to house the competitors.

There are nine main buildings which can house 1400 visitors; each residence has its own massage rooms and Finnish steam baths, and round them are practice grounds and tennis courts.

With its white houses nestling among the trees, Tech Town is one of the greatest gifts that any nation has ever contributed to the Olympics.

Having given thousands of working hours to creating a town for the comfort of their guests, the young people of Helsinki have proved that they truly understand the spirit of good will that lies behind the Olympiad.

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Our prospects in the XVth Olympic Games at Helsinki are here assessed by a recognised authority—none other than Jack Crump, Hon. Manager of Britain's Olympic Games Athletics team.

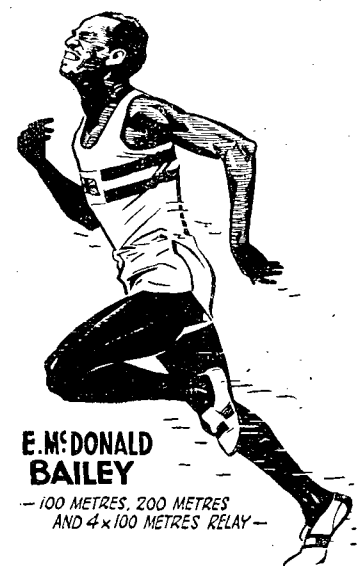
MORE than 8000 men and women, highly-trained amateur competitors representing over 70 countries in 17 different sports, will assemble in the main Olympic Stadium at Helsinki on Saturday, July 19, for the impressive and most colourful opening ceremony of the XVth Modern Olympic Games.

The march into the arena, the lighting of the Olympic Flame, the taking of the Olympic oath, and the hoisting of the Olympic flag of plain white with the five intertwined rings are in themselves an unforgettable sight. Yet nothing will impress the competitors, nor the 80,000 spectators, more than the Olympic motto which will appear on the huge electric score-board at the end of the Stadium. The important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win, but to take part. The important thing in life is not the triumph, but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered, but to have fought well.

This motto owes its origin to the founder of the Modern Games, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, and many athletes who took part in the last Olympic Games at Wembley have told me—often—that its message remains as the most vivid recollection of that moving opening performance.

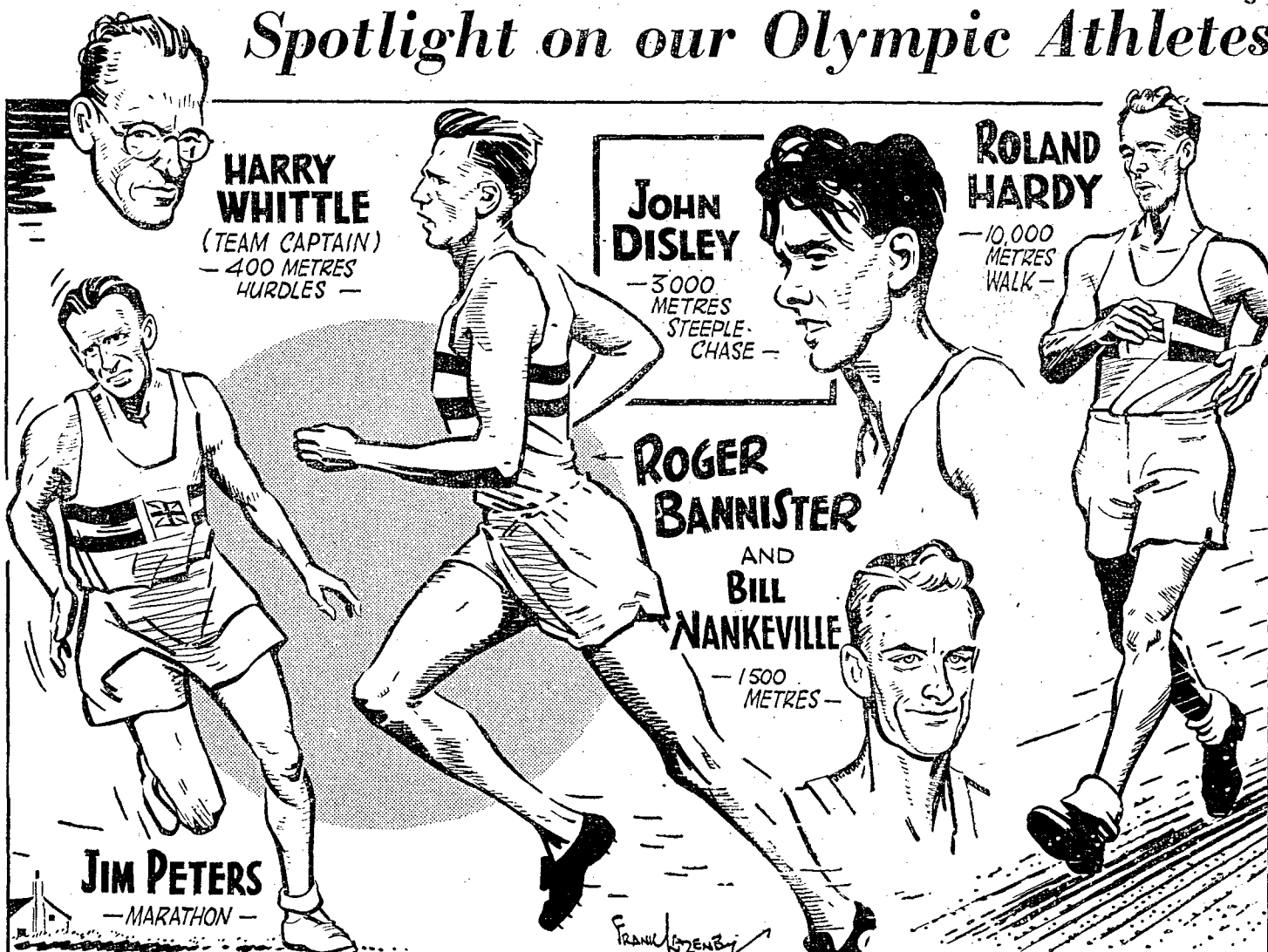
Nor a single competitor will enter the Olympic contests without being determined to do his or her utmost to win; but the truth of Baron Coubertin's words becomes obvious when it is realised that few of this great company of national champions can possibly win an Olympic Gold Medal.

If winning were the sole reason for competing, the number of competitors would of necessity be small. Most nations will leave the Olympic arenas without having gained a single medal, but their



E. McDONALD BAILEY

—100 METRES, 200 METRES
AND 4x100 METRES RELAY—



participation is of the highest importance nevertheless.

Britain sends a big team, not as big as those of the United States of America, Soviet Russia, Sweden, or Finland, but nevertheless bigger than that of the majority of the competing nations.

In 16 of the 17 separate sports there will be competitors representing Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and chances of success in some are not particularly bright.

But it is significant that every single sport has trained its representatives with a care which I can never remember in previous Olympics, and it is beyond dispute that in virtually every one, the British standard is much higher than ever before.

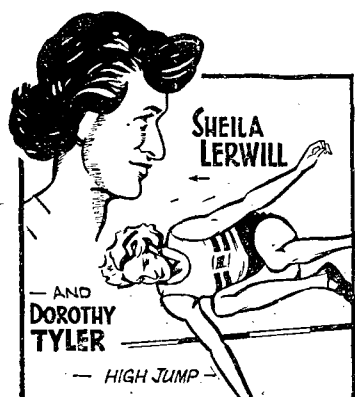
WHILE we can, and in fact must, hope that Britain's best may be good enough to earn surprise successes, yet it is in athletics, rowing, yachting, and equestrianism that our prospects are brightest, and we are not without chances in cycling, swimming, hockey, and Association football.

Colonel Harry Llewellyn, world-famed jumper—and his scarcely less renowned horse Foxhunter—has been in strenuous training for some months, together with his two team colleagues; with reasonable fortune they could gain individual and team success in the Prix des Nations jumping competition.

In yachting we can take comfort in the fact that one title was won at Torquay in 1948, and that we have a better team this time. Most of us will remember the brilliance of the 1951 Cambridge

rowing eight, most of whom will row for us in the Olympics, and in the four-oared and pair-oared events it will take exceptional crews to defeat them.

AS for the track and field athletics, our hopes are highest in the Marathon Race—perhaps the most glamorous of all Olympic contests—in which J. H. Peters, and S. E. W. Cox are outstanding runners.



Sheila Lerwill, the world high-jump record-holder and the 32-year-old Dorothy Tyler, who was second in 1948, are two of the finest women high-jumpers in the world; in their event, we might get not only first place but second as well.

The Sheffield track walker, Roland Hardy, is the fastest short-distance walker I have ever seen, and has a splendid chance in the 10,000 metres walking race.

In the 1500 metres, Roger Bannister and G. W. Nankeville will meet tremendous opposition, but Bannister in particular has a

devastating final lap sprint which, in my view, could overcome all opposition.

McDonald Bailey last year proved that he is as fast as any other sprinter by equalling the world record for 100 metres, and his chance can obviously not be ignored. Personally, I believe that his best chance is in the 200 metres rather than in the short sprint, but in both he can have few, if any, superiors in the world.

I WOULD not describe as negligible our chances of victory in the steeplechase (especially after the brilliant achievement of John Disley in the recent A.A.A. championships), the 50 kilometres walk, nor in the women's 4 x 100 metres relay; and surprises, especially by British athletes, have often occurred in the 800 metres race. The 21-year-old Gordon Pirie could also spring a surprise in either the 5000 or 10,000 metres.

Although none but a great competitor ever wins Olympic honours, good fortune plays quite a big part in the destination of titles. We experienced none four years ago at Wembley, but perhaps it will be with us this time.

THE British team go to Helsinki well trained and in a mood of quiet confidence. I hope and believe it will justify this confidence and return with several victories to its credit. But once more to underline the message of the founder of the modern Olympics: *The important thing in life is not the triumph, but the struggle.*

SOME OLYMPIC RECORDS

- 100 METRES—J. C. Owens (U.S.) 10.2 seconds.
- 200 METRES—J. C. Owens (U.S.) 20.7 seconds.
- 400 METRES—W. A. Carr (U.S.) and A. Wint (Jamaica) 46.2 seconds.
- 800 METRES—M. G. Whitfield (U.S.) 1 minute 49.2 seconds.
- 1500 METRES—J. E. Lovelock (N.Z.) 3 minutes 47.8 seconds.
- 5000 METRES—C. Reiff (Belgium) 14 minutes 17.6 seconds.
- 10,000 METRES—E. Zatopek (Czechoslovakia) 29 minutes 59.6 seconds.
- 110 METRES HURDLES—W. F. Porter (U.S.) 13.9 seconds.
- 400 METRES HURDLES—R. B. Cochran (U.S.) 51.1 seconds.
- HIGH JUMP—C. C. Johnson (U.S.) 6 feet 8 inches.
- LONG JUMP—J. C. Owens (U.S.) 26 feet 5½ inches.
- POLE VAULT—E. Meadows (U.S.) 14 feet 3¼ inches.
- 50,000 METRES WALK—H. H. Whitlock (Great Britain) 4 hours 30 minutes 41.4 seconds.
- 100 METRES SWIM—W. Ris (U.S.) 57.3 seconds.
- 400 METRES SWIM—W. Smith (U.S.) 4 minutes 41 seconds.

WOMEN'S RECORDS

- 100 METRES—H. H. Stephens (U.S.) 11.4 seconds.
- 200 METRES—F. Blankers-Koen (Netherlands) 24.4 seconds.
- 80 METRES HURDLES—F. Blankers-Koen and M. Gardner (Great Britain) 11.2 seconds.
- HIGH JUMP—A. Coachman (U.S.) and D. Tyler (Great Britain) 5 feet 6½ inches.
- LONG JUMP—V. O. Gyarmati (Hungary) 18 feet 8¼ inches.

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · EC4

JULY 19 1952

TORCH OF PEACE

THE torch kindled at ancient Olympia on June 25, and since carried by relay runners and by plane across Europe, is nearing the end of its journey; on Saturday it will reach Helsinki—it is due to arrive at the Stadium at 2.15 p.m.

This Olympic torch has a special significance in these troubled times. This was stressed by the King of Greece while the torch was at Athens, during its journey from Mount Olympus. "Let this flame of peace," he said, "be a link in the reunion of sporting youth and of the peoples of the whole world."

The essential thing in the Olympic Games is not the victory but the striving—and the manner of the striving. The essential fact about the Games is that they clearly demonstrate to mankind that nations may meet together in the keenest rivalry and yet remain friends.

The Olympic torch is a symbol of these great essentials, a bright flame of peace and good will glowing with a message for a world darkened by mistrust.

All lovers of peace will hope that its message will penetrate to the four corners of the world—and, above all, to the council chambers of the nations.

Under the Editor's Table

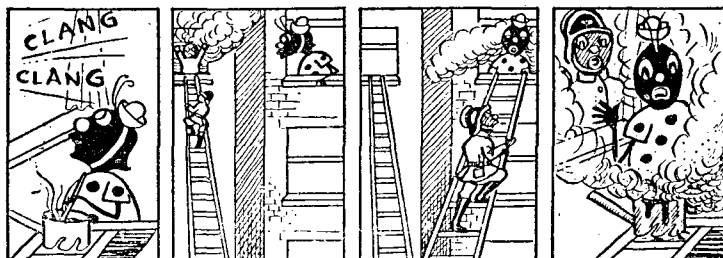
We may get holidays on the moon in a hundred years' time. And half-holidays when it is a half-moon?

Four boys were trapped for half an hour in a lift. It let them down.

An owl flew into a Derby schoolroom and was allowed to stay. Hope it learned its lesson.

A song-writer who can do for Kent what Glorious Devon did for Devon will win £100. Something to make a song about.

BILLY BEETLE



The Editor's Table

GREEN FRONT

THE Men of the Trees, who encourage the planting and preservation of trees everywhere, will next week celebrate their 30th anniversary at their Summer School at Harrogate.

Their journal, *Trees*, reminds us that tree-planting and protection is a vital necessity for the future of civilisation. It is the only way of checking and reversing the soil erosion which turns fertile regions into semi-deserts, a process which, if it were allowed to continue, would inflict mass-starvation upon mankind.

Last March, before the diplomatic representatives of 34 countries, the Men of the Trees proclaimed a Green Front, on which governments could combine to tackle this great threat.

Those who would like to serve on this peaceful front can obtain the Society's publications from 223 Winchester Road, Southampton.

Molehill and mountain

THE Chinese Communists no longer speak of Mount Everest because this name "commemorates an imperialist colonial administrator."

The world's highest mountain had no native name when in 1841 Sir George Everest first fixed its position and height by trigonometry, so it was called after that famous surveyor.

Now, say the Chinese Communists, the mountain is to be known as Chumulongma, which means sacred mother of the waters, the name it is said to have been given on an old Chinese map.

It is hard to think of any folly more petty than this. If Britain proposed to change the name of America's capital, not wishing to perpetuate the name of the great revolutionary, she would deservedly be the laughing stock of the whole world.

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO
KNOW

If people who pull
their friends to
pieces have scraps

A parish council in Suffolk has only one member. All resolutions are carried unanimously.

The leather trade thinks people ought to take more care of their feet. Should know what steps to take.

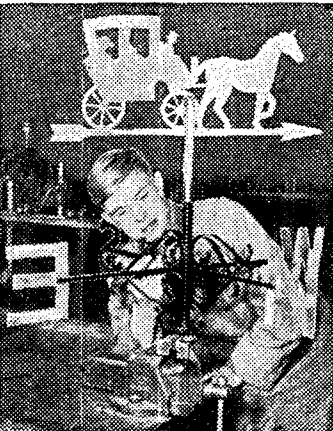
Music while they ride

MANY citizens of Washington, D.C., have been complaining about the loudspeakers in the city's public transport vehicles; they do not like this enforced listening to music and advertisements.

The disgruntled travellers carried their complaint to the United States Supreme Court, which, however, gave judgment condemning them to listen to the broadcasts. And now the National Citizens' Committee against Forced Listening are to take their grievance to Congress itself.

They should be heeded. Radio, boon to mankind that it is, will prove to be a bane if it is allowed to intrude everywhere at every moment of our waking lives.

School weathervane



Pupils of the Boys' Modern School at West Tarring, Sussex, have made a weathervane of brass and wrought-iron in their workshop. Here is 14-year-old Victor Ham putting some finishing touches to the weathervane, which is to be set up at the school entrance.

Minor road ahead

THE Chelsea Council Highways Committee want a 5 m.p.h. speed limit for children's play streets, and the notice painted on roads leading into them: *Play street ahead—no through traffic.*

The Ministry of Transport disagreed with the 5 m.p.h. limit because policemen would always have to be on duty in such streets to enforce it.

It would be a splendid thing if all our big cities had play streets in which the only vehicles were those calling at houses in them, and none exceeding 5 m.p.h. But such a limit would have to be strictly enforced, or the streets would become traps for the children who thought they could safely play in them.

DREAMING OAKS

These green-robed senators of mighty woods,
Tall oaks, branch-charmed by the earnest stars,
Dream, and so dream all night without a stir. *John Keats*

JUST AN IDEA

As an old Burmese saying has it: The thoughts of his heart are a man's true wealth.

UNDERSTUDY

OUR old friend the Loch Ness monster has a rival in Lake Okanagan, British Columbia. His name is Ogopogo, and scores of people claim that they have seen him.

One woman living by the lake says she saw Ogopogo three times last year, once catching sight of his head, seven humps, and pointed tail.

This year two boys watched a greenish-grey serpent lash its tail and poke a whale-like head out of the water. They declared the monster to be about 35 feet long. Later it was joined by another serpent-like creature.

We imagine that the Loch Ness monster will lash his tail if he should learn about this upstart's challenge to his notoriety—just in the tourist season, too!

Cheese it!

ONE of the latest crazes is the collecting of labels on different kinds of imported cheese; and it has been given the dignified name of—Fromology!

Importers of cheese have been receiving many requests for labels from schoolboys who do not care who has the cheese so long as they get the label. It is to be hoped that the fromologists remove all traces of the cheese before sticking the gay labels in their albums.

Thirty Years Ago

A BOY earning a pound a week can, for one-fifth of a week's earnings, buy a watch that not even a king could have had six hundred years ago. In the fourteenth century a monarch considered himself fortunate if he could induce a rare German clockmaker to set him up a single clock in his palace.

Undoubtedly the process will continue of changing luxuries into necessities. All that has been done so far will, in its turn, appear little when compared with the output of a more enlightened age.

From the Children's Newspaper,
July 22, 1922

The Children's Newspaper, July 19, 1952

THINGS SAID

THE Anglo-American alliance is fundamental to our survival as a nation, to the preservation of world peace, and to give the poverty-stricken millions of the world a chance of a better life. *Mr. Woodrow Wyatt, M.P.*

THE Good Samaritan acted on the principle of sharing, and to that principle we shall find ourselves constantly returning if we are to do any good. *Mr. Walter Elliot, M.P.*

THE proposition of a fair day's work for a fair day's pay can only be abandoned with dire effect on character and disastrous consequences to the nation. *Report of the National Association of Boys' Clubs*

THE builder of today, though he does not set out to create ugliness, seems to devastate whole areas, no doubt thinking he is doing a good job. *Mr. O. P. Milne, an architect*

BRITAIN was never more in need of men of first-rate character and highly-trained minds, provided they are humble at the outset of their careers and believe they must get their coats off and learn their jobs. *Vice-Chancellor of Nottingham University*

IN THE COUNTRY

IT has been written that "the road is of the earth, and goes amongst the earth's sweetest things." But for the country-lover it must be a winding by-way with tangled hedges.

Happy is the ramble when the tide of high summer's luxuriant growths overflows in colourful waves along the wayside banks and grassy verges; when the air is a-twinkle with gaily-painted butterflies, and family parties of birds make merry in the leafy bowers.

The winding lane is a source of delight to the wayfarer; now it is that we can echo Merrick's words:

*Thank God for lanes, wherein
no traffic whirls,
In deadly line . . .
Here may the harassed spirit find
relief
From rush and blare.*



OUR HOMELAND

A lunchtime rest at
Cheshunt in Hertfordshire.

The Children's Newspaper, July 19, 1952

Another Nature article by THE HUT MAN discussing

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

(7) Butterfly or Moth?

BUTTERFLIES and moths belong to the beautiful group of insects which scientists call Lepidoptera, a name which comes from two Greek words—lepis: a scale, and pteron: a wing.

The wings of butterflies and moths are covered with minute scales that float away as fine dust when a wing is injured, and it is for this reason that these insects are classed together in one group, or Order as the scientist calls it. It is these tiny scales that give the wings their lovely colourings and patterns, though if they are all carefully removed the insect can fly just as well without them.

There are few insects more familiar to us than butterflies and moths, but how many of us can always be certain of identifying one from the other?

Some of us may think that butterflies are brighter than moths, but there are moths that are much more brightly coloured than some butterflies. The common and very gay Garden Tiger Moth is often mistaken for a butterfly for this reason; so are the handsome Emperor Moth and that lovely little insect, the Cinnabar Moth, whose caterpillars can now be found on ragwort.

ANOTHER oft quoted difference is that moths rest with wings held out horizontally, like those of aircraft, while butterflies rest with their wings held upright, back to back, rather like a tiny yacht in full sail. This is very often the case, but it is not a safe guide. A few of our moths will rest with wings held upright above their backs, while butterflies often spread their wings outright to enjoy the sunshine on their upper surfaces.

A still further reason, often believed but still not foolproof, is



Red Admiral Butterfly

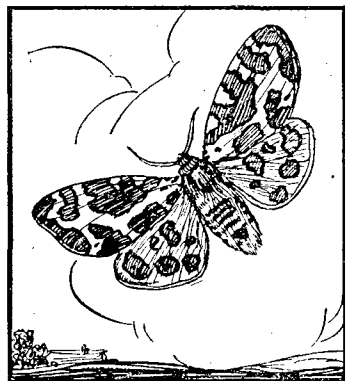
that butterflies fly by day while moths fly only in the evening or at night. Quite a number of our butterflies will be found fluttering quite late in the twilight, while very many moths are lovers of the hours of sunshine and will not be seen moving at any other time.

WHAT guide is there, then, by which we can be sure of identifying butterfly from moth correctly? The safest, and the most obvious, are those delicate little "horns" projecting from the insect's forehead, commonly called feelers but scientifically termed antennae.

In the British Isles we have 68 different kinds of butterflies, and

each has delicate, thread-like antennae, bearing at their tips a tiny swelling or knob, rather like little drumsticks or clubs. British moths number over 2000 species, and not one carries the clubbed antennae of the butterflies. Some moth antennae are like simple pieces of curved wire; others are very beautiful and elaborate, looking like minute ferns or feathers, but none is clubbed quite like those of our butterflies. So by their antennae we will know them.

The remarkable thing about this antennae guide is that it does not



Garden Tiger Moth

hold good for all the butterflies and moths of the world, but we need not worry about that. So far as our British Lepidoptera is concerned the rule is safe, even for those butterflies and moths which migrate to this country like birds.

THE giant Death's-Head Hawk-Moth, biggest of all the members of its Order, flies to us from foreign lands of the South, and its antennae are not clubbed. Among our butterfly visitors we have the lovely Red Admiral and Painted Lady; their antennae are true to type, with little knobbed tips.

It is as though the butterflies and moths of our islands had fixed a law for knobs and no knobs, and were seeing to it that the rule applied to all aliens who desired to visit us, for no matter how brief a period.

WINSTON IN THE LIMELIGHT

A colourful spectacle in London this week has been the Searchlight Tattoo at the White City, in which the three Services combine. In the Armada Pageant the girl representing Queen Elizabeth I is mounted on Winston, the London police horse who has carried Queen Elizabeth II at great parades.

The scene in which he takes part shows Queen Bess inspecting the troops gathered at Tilbury for the defence of England against the Armada, and the queen making her famous speech: "I know that I have but the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart of a king, and a king of England, too..."

Winston seems to sense something of his important role in carrying the Queen herself, for mounted police officers say that he has become just a little bit temperamental lately!

American school for London

A new High School for the sons and daughters of American Servicemen in Britain is to open at Bushy Park, Middlesex, on September 8.

It will have an American teaching staff and will be run on the same lines as High Schools "back home." There will be some 150 pupils, boys and girls together, between the ages of about 14 and 17. Some will be boarders, but others living in the London area will travel to and fro daily.

The school is in a building taken over and converted, and has some 15 class-rooms. Boarders will sleep about six in a dormitory, under a "supervisor," as a prefect is called. But the supervisors are subordinate to the Student Council elected by the pupils.

CANDY STORE

Meals are taken in the cafeteria, and a popular rendezvous will be the Candy Store, stocked with plenty of good things from the U.S. Among the school subjects will be home-making, social living, journalism, dramatic art, carpentry for the boys, and needlework and cooking for the girls.

It is natural that the U.S. authorities should want their boys and girls here to grow up in the American way, but there will be opportunities for the young people to visit Britain's museums and historic buildings, and to attend concerts. On their extensive playing-fields they will be able to play cricket and soccer as well as their national game of baseball.

OILED FOR GOOD

Lubricating oils which will not burn but have an almost indefinite life—that is the claim for two new chemical materials with technical names. One is a silicone and the other a fluorocarbon.

Both are man-made chemicals, not duplicated in nature. Chemical engineers have succeeded in combining the lasting qualities of inorganic materials with the lubricating properties of certain organic materials.

Using these new fluids the entire lubricating system of a car could be sealed up and would last the whole life of the car without further attention! But at present both of these new oils are extremely expensive.

PORTRAIT OF A HOLE

Research engineers have found a method of telling what the inside of a narrow drill hole looks like.

They take a picture with a special type of camera fitted with a 360-degree lens. Then they develop and project the image onto a cylindrical screen so that the hole is clearly detailed for inspection.

The chief use of this camera at present is for the examination of concrete structures. Sample drill holes are made in the concrete, photographed, and inspected. Engineers can then check the appearance and quality of the material throughout.

GATHERING PEARLS IN BRITAIN



Pearl-fishing on the River Tay, near Perth

Britain's pearl-fishing season is now in full swing, and the treasure-seekers will be busy until the end of the summer.

Today British pearls come from Scotland, though at one time Irish and Welsh rivers also yielded excellent harvests. Scottish stones formerly enjoyed a European reputation, and they have been famous for many centuries.

Pliny and Tacitus, the Roman historians, both mentioned British pearls. During the Middle Ages the stones won such renown that they were referred to in a statute of the goldsmiths of Paris, dated 1355.

There was considerable interest in the industry in the 17th century, for the Privy Council of Scotland reserved the rights for the Crown

by issuing a proclamation to that effect.

Pearls worth anything from £20 to £100 are still discovered, but the yield is a fraction of what it might be because indiscriminate pearling has seriously reduced the stocks. The Crown never exercises its nominal powers, which is a pity, for if the beds were properly cared for quite a profitable industry could be established.

Proof of the substantial harvests formerly reaped is provided by records which show that between 1761 and 1764 no fewer than £10,000 worth of Scottish pearls were sent to London. That figure, however, was surpassed in a single season much nearer our own time. In 1865 about £12,500 worth of pearls were forwarded to the London dealers.

Some of the finest Scottish stones are now in the Crown Jewels of Scotland, kept in Edinburgh Castle. Probably the most valuable pearl ever found in Scotland came from a tributary of the Ythan, in Aberdeenshire, in 1620. The Provost of Aberdeen took it to London and presented it to the king, who had it placed in the Crown of Scotland.

John Farquharson of Cupar, once recovered a perfect salmon-coloured pearl from the Tay. It was given to Edward VII when he was Prince of Wales, and the finder was created "Royal Pearl Fisher."

Large sums have on occasions been paid for specially beautiful gems. Only a few years back £100 was given for a fine pearl from the Teith, which has yielded a considerable number of unusually splendid pearls. Another pearl from the same river was sold for £50.

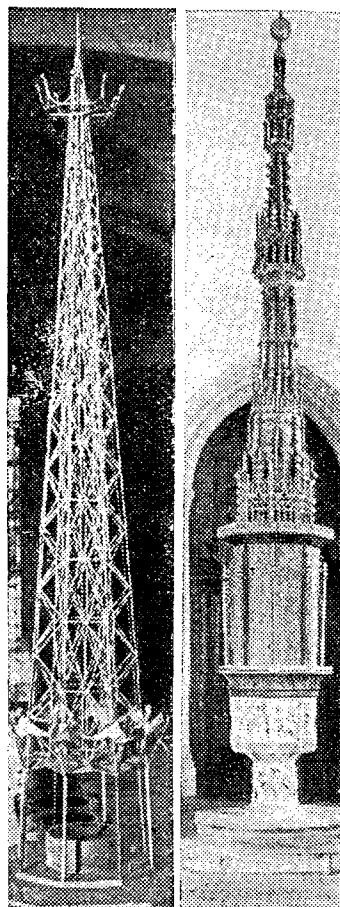
The principal rivers yielding the pearls are the Spey, the Tay, and the South Esk; and to a lesser extent the Doon, the Dee, Don, Ythan, Teith, and Forth. Other streams yield them occasionally.

FIRST MOTONDO

Motondo is an addition to the list of Scout terms, such as Jam-boree, Corroboree, Moot, and Indaba, used to describe international gatherings.

In the Belgian Congo it means a "meeting of thanksgiving," and it has been adopted by Salvation Army Scouts to describe their first International Camp, beginning on August 5, at Lunteren, Holland.

New and Old



A model of the new font for Coventry Cathedral, and, right, the richly-carved font cover, 20 feet high, at Worlingworth, Suffolk, which may be five centuries old.



Country playground

Two mothers relax on the grass while their children join the energetic group on the swings. The picture was taken near Brentwood, Essex.

JERICHO IS THE WORLD'S OLDEST TOWN

A team of archaeologists from Britain, America, Canada, and Australia, who dug down into the foundations of ancient Jericho, have discovered that it is the earliest known permanent town in the world.

This they proved by finding a massive stone wall which belonged to Jericho in Neolithic times, before pottery was introduced.

PAPER THERMOMETERS

One of the latest ideas of the United States Army is to use thermometers which are just strips of paper.

The paper has been treated with a special coating which melts at different temperatures. A glance will show which temperature has been reached, the range being from, roughly, 'shade temperature on a really hot day to more than twice the temperature of boiling water.

Above this wall stood that of the early Bronze Age.

The diggers also found that the houses of the first Jericho were quite elaborately built of mud bricks, some of which bore their maker's thumb marks.

The people who lived in this primitive town, long before the Jericho that was captured by Joshua, may have had some kind of religious belief, for a niche was found in the wall of one room, and near it a piece of hewn volcanic rock which fitted exactly into the niche, and may have been an object of worship.

Under the floor of another room was found the skull of an old man which had been carefully placed upright, possibly to ensure that his wisdom in life would thus be transferred to the inhabitants of the house. These first citizens of Jericho had flint implements and used small stone bowls, and stone querns for grinding corn by hand.

SCHOOLBOYS PADDLING HOME

Three boys from the Royal Masonic School at Bushey, Hertfordshire, have decided on a novel way of going home for their summer holidays. Instead of taking trains and buses, they are going to canoe their way from Watford to Cheshire—226 miles along five canals—in canoes designed by their woodwork master and built in their school workshop.

The three boys are Fred Hill of Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire, and Donald Pearson of Liverpool, both 15, and 16-year-old Christopher Nobbs of Malton, Yorkshire.

The canoes, built of hemlock and covered with masonite, will carry small red sails and telescopic masts. The paddles are made of Chilean wood, tipped with copper.

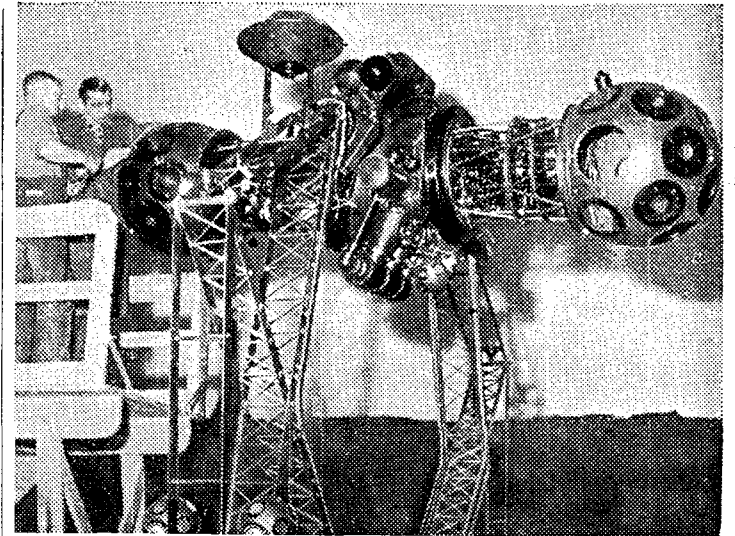
Fred Hill told a CN correspondent that they will camp on the canal banks or in their boats during their three-week journey. They will have no food problem, for as Fred said: "We shall stock up with tinned food and lots of peanut butter, and get bread, flour, eggs, and fruit on the way."

They will have to push their canoes on trolleys for the last seven miles of their journey—from Poynton to Cheadle Hulme—but once at Fred's home, Donald and Christopher will no doubt freshen up before going on by land to their own homes.

COLLEGE SELLS VILLAGE

The little village of Piddletrenthide, about eight miles north of Dorchester, is to be sold by the Warden and Fellows of Winchester College, to whom it was given by Henry VIII.

Piddletrenthide has some 504 inhabitants, about as many as there are boys at Winchester. Its long name is composite: the River Piddle or Puddle flows beside its main street, the old name for the river was Trent, and Hyde was an old abbey.



Planetarium for Paris

The largest planetarium in Europe is being set up in Paris, and in this picture we see the huge projector which shows a moving image of the heavens on the dome.

AFRICAN BANANA CROPS ARE THREATENED

The Chagga tribe living on Mount Kilimanjaro, the Wakaya tribe west of Lake Victoria, and the Baganda people of Uganda, are all threatened with hunger on account of banana disease.

Most African tribes feed on grain, but these depend on special varieties of bananas which are cut while green, then peeled, and steamed until the pulp is a soft yellow mash, rather like mashed potatoes but with a different taste. Called Matoke, this supplies about 90 per cent of their food.

Unhappily, the dread Panama disease has appeared among the bananas on the slopes of Kilimanjaro; a far cry from Jamaica where the same disease has been responsible for the dearth of bananas in our own shops. But to us, it is merely the loss of a luxury fruit; to these people it may mean disaster.

The disease is a fungus living in the soil, and is capable of being spread as foot-and-mouth disease

is spread, by birds and animals, on the feet of human beings, and by the transport of infected food or material. The disease enters the rootstock and rots away the whole plant. There is no known cure.

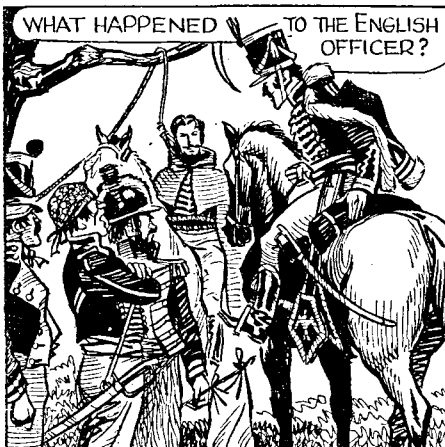
The authorities in Jamaica have been engaged for years in trying to breed varieties of the same kind which are immune to the disease. They have only partly succeeded. Tests are now being made in East Africa to see if any of the native varieties of bananas are immune.

MORE RAW MATERIALS

Certain essential raw materials are now produced in greater quantities than ever before.

Compared with two years ago, the present world production of synthetic rubber is up 75 per cent; oil is up 15 per cent; electric power is up 12 per cent; steel is up 10 per cent; natural rubber, copper, and zinc are all up 5 per cent.

THE EXPLOITS OF BRIGADIER GERARD—PICTURE-VERSION OF CONAN DOYLE'S FAMOUS STORY (9)



Gerard had a noose put round Millefleurs' neck, and at the sight of this the bandits at the abbey showed flags of truce. Three of them came out to parley, and the Brigadier threatened to hang their leader unless they released their 51 English prisoners. They said they had only 37, because 14, including the officer, had died fighting rather than surrender. Gerard was sad at the loss of his friend, "Bart."



The Brigadier insisted that the 37 should be released, together with the Countess whom he had been sent to rescue. The bandits would not agree to free the Countess, and at last Millefleurs, calm and polite despite the noose tightening on his neck, proposed that they should send for the lady to hear her opinion. Gerard agreed to this peculiar suggestion, and in a few minutes the old lady arrived.



Millefleurs told the stately old dame that the Frenchmen wanted to take her away so that she would never see him again. To Gerard's stupefaction the old lady declared: "My dear Alexis, nothing can ever part us." She had been persuaded by this cunning villain to become his wife! Poor Gerard was beaten. He had rescued his English allies, but had to return to camp with neither Millefleurs nor the Countess.



The Brigadier returned to France, and at Rheims he and another officer were sent for by the Emperor, Napoleon. The Emperor explained that the enemy were near Paris, but his brother was there, too, with a large force, and he wanted an important letter taken to him. Gerard and his comrade were each to receive a copy of the letter, and would have to ride to Paris through enemy-held territory.

This is the kind of dangerous enterprise the Brigadier loves, but how will he get on? See next week's instalment

MONDAY *Thrills and mystery on the river*

ADVENTURE

by John Pudney

In Blackmead Abbey, now a film studio, Fred and I discovered that an American professor, his daughter Annabel, and an actor named Keith were all prisoners. Still dressed as a page, in medieval costume, I went to fetch Uncle George from our boat, but he had disappeared. Returning, I was captured by two men.

15. In a Coffin-boat

I CHOKED and gasped, but no words at all came from me. Then I was suddenly jerked to my feet and half lifted, half pushed, forward until we reached the edge of the backwater. Then I was



forced aboard a boat—one of the strange, mysterious coffin-boats.

"Get down below and don't touch anything or there'll be trouble," one of the men ordered.

There was a small aft deck with a hatch and a companionway leading down into the black shiny hull of the boat. I stepped back down the ladder until I came to an iron deck. From the way they had acted since my capture, I gathered that the two men were in a hurry, and this was borne out when they both came clattering down the ladder, closing the hatch behind them with a heavy bar.

"When's the next one coming through, Red?" asked one, whom I took to be the mate.

"She's due in a few minutes. If we have to wait for her we may be held up for an hour or more." Red pushed past me toward the nose of the boat. The mate turned a switch, and there was a roar from the engines. The boat shuddered. I walked forward along a narrow gangplank with machinery on either side of me. In spite of the fact that I was being held prisoner and forced to take this trip to an unknown destination I could not help being excited by this extraordinary boat.

THE man called Red was operating from a position in the nose which was for all the world like a driving cabin of a bus, although I could tell at a glance that the controls were much more complicated. This small wheelhouse only

took up about a quarter of the space in the nose. The rest was fitted with all kinds of complicated mechanism. There were tubes which reminded me of torpedo tubes. There were a number of powerful drills. There was a contrivance which resembled a small dredger. Most mystifying of all was a kind of half-sized cabin fitted with glass sides which reminded me of the conning tower of a submarine, but for the fact that it was built right into the hull.

To steer and navigate the boat, Red had simply slid back a couple of small panels, revealing an expanse of darkened glass like a heavy windscreen in front of his wheelhouse. By standing up he could see just enough to steer by.

I raised myself on tiptoe and saw that we were going round the last bend into the straight stretch of the backwater. A shiver of excitement went through me. This was about the spot where Fred and I had seen the other coffin-boat dive.

I FORGOT about that when I suddenly spotted a row of containers about the size of large cigars. They stood in a rack ready for use. What burnt itself into my mind was the single word *quassium* stamped upon each container.

Here was a link with the warning note I had picked up in the

pavilion! It proved not only that there was indeed quassium in Blackmead Abbey, but that Neman's gang operating these strange submarines were using it!

As the boat lurched, I stooped and lifted one of the containers out of the rack.

It was too long to fit into my leather pouch, but I managed to drop the thing through my doublet so that it lay rather awkwardly in the folds of my puffed-out pants.

"Get ready to dive!" Red called out.

"All ready here," answered the mate.

They both called to me to hold tight.

As the nose went down and the deck sank at an angle under my feet I caught sight of the long stretch of the backwater. Then Red pulled a lever which opened a great panel in the lower part of the nose. It was studded with powerful searchlights, which showed clearly the shape of the banks and of the river bed. The banks were like mud walls with river vegetation and the roots of trees waving about as we passed.

There was a sharp word of command from Red and the nose of the boat yawed round to port. Ahead I now saw a vast arch built into the bank, like the entrance to a railway tunnel. The next moment we slid between the dark walls of this huge underwater drain. The tunnel gradually opened out, and the coffin-boat slowly came to the surface.

We had been riding normally along the surface for a minute or two when I recognised the landing-stage at the bottom of the steps which led up into the tennis pavilion.

The mate had now opened the hatch and I was able to look back over the stern of the boat. Thoughts of escape crossed my mind, and I moved along the gangplank; but at that moment the mate sat down on the top step. He must have guessed my thoughts. He grinned down toward me and murmured: "Fancy a swim, do we? I shouldn't. One of the workers nearly got drowned here the other day."

"What was he working at?" I asked innocently.

"Oh, just getting the stuff out."

THE stuff? Now we were coming to it! "I suppose the stuff is very heavy?" I asked.

"Heavy? Why, what do you expect with solid gold? A lot of the caskets are lined with lead, too. I expect there's all sorts of precious stuff inside them. We don't always see that..."

I tried not to look surprised or excited. The great thing was to pretend I knew all about this treasure already. "I suppose Neman looks after all that side of things?" I said.

"When he's not working over the plans with that crazy old king. But I reckon that's the one and only way of getting a line on this treasure. If it wasn't for the way Neman and Morr worked on that old geyser, and this quassium we're using, we should never have got anywhere."

At that moment our conversa-

Next week: Camp hygiene.

Continued on page 10

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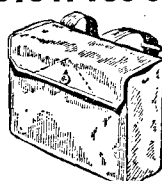
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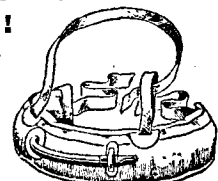
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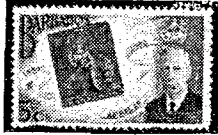
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WALTZING BACK
TO AUSTRALIA

Three men in a car

Three adventurous young men are travelling in a 1937 car from Rhodesia to Australia—by way of Britain.

Two of them, David Hewison, aged 21, and John Mitchell, 24, are Australians who want to look at their "old" country and also that country's motherland. The third, David Murch, is an Englishman who felt an urge to go with them just for the fun of the thing.

They overhauled their old car, painted a kangaroo on it, and called it Waltzing Matilda. Then they set out on a veritable geographical waltz to Australia.

SHORT OF MONEY

They have not much equipment nor a great deal of money but, said David Hewison: "We will stop when we feel like it, do a bit of work, and then carry on until we feel like stopping again."

Their intended route is Portuguese East Africa, Nyasaland, Tanganyika, Kenya, Uganda, Belgian Congo, French Equatorial Africa, Morocco, Algeria, Spain, Portugal, France, the Low Countries and Scandinavia, England, Ireland, Scotland, and then off to Australia by way of Italy.

Whether Waltzing Matilda will last out the ball is rather doubtful. "If she breaks down so badly that it would be too expensive to have her repaired," says David Hewison, "we shall just have to leave her and hitch-hike."

Whether she takes two years or three, we hope that old Matilda will waltz triumphantly into Australia.

RARE EGGS AT THE ZOO

By Craven Hill, CN Correspondent at Regent's Park

FOR the first time in the memory of the London Zoo staff a Snowy or Arctic Owl has laid eggs and is sitting.

The event is something of a triumph for Headkeeper E. Scrivener, for these large white owls from the Far North are difficult to pair in captivity, and breeding of the species in a zoo is almost unknown.

"I have been rather lucky, perhaps," Mr. Scrivener told me. "By a stroke of good fortune I found myself with a likely breeding pair. The female was rescued from an ice-floe in the North Atlantic in 1946 by the crew of the merchant ship Fort Frederick, and was sent to the Gardens from the docks as a gift from captain and crew. The male owl flew aboard the s.s. Eros in 1950 when that vessel was off the Azores."

"The eggs are white-shelled and resemble duck eggs, but are more round than oval. Incubation period is believed to be about six weeks, and to prevent the sitting owl from being disturbed I have shielded her with sacking."

ANOTHER rare egg now being incubated in the Gardens is one laid by Mary, the king penguin. At the time of writing, the egg is being carried about by Mary's husband Tubby, who holds the egg on the upper part of his feet, with an "apron" of flesh dropped over it to hold it in position.

Incidentally, Mary's anxiety to make sure her mate does his duty properly is amusing to watch. She follows him around, constantly poking her beak down to his feet

to satisfy herself that all is well. Tubby is expected to carry the egg for a few days and will then pass it over to Mary's keeping for a spell, while he goes into the pool for a much-needed bath.

Mary came from the Falkland Islands four years ago, but misfortune has dogged her. Altogether she has laid three eggs while at Regent's Park, but unfortunately lost all her chicks while they were quite small.

YET another rare egg was laid the other day at the birds-of-prey aviaries, but, owing to the foolishness or inexperience of the bird that laid it—a West African Crowned Hawk-eagle—there will certainly be no chick this time.

The hawk-eagle, a fine-looking bird standing 18 inches tall, with tufted head and broad expanse of speckled breast feathers, flew to her outdoor perch, some 10 feet off the ground, and while there laid her egg. It immediately dropped to the concrete flooring and was smashed to fragments.

However, although the Zoo will get no little hawk-eagle, the laying of this egg has had a curious effect upon the eagle herself.

"Previously she had been one of our most difficult birds, a menace to the keepers cleaning the cage," Headkeeper Jack Ward told me. "Since laying the egg her character has changed—for the better. She is now much more amiable and contented!"

A WILD heron which visited the grounds the other day got rather more excitement than it bargained for.

Apparently attracted by the two captive herons which live in the Great Aviary, the bird alighted on the roof and stayed for some minutes, preening itself. But as dusk approached it flew away.

Scarcely had it taken off than it was attacked by two carrion crows who wheeled about it, pecking at its feathers.

Seeking refuge in height, the heron flew skywards. But the crows followed it and were later joined by a third.

The aerial battle was watched by members of the Zoo staff from the roof of the keepers' lodge. But its end is unknown.

"When we last saw the heron it was very hard pressed and was being beaten earthwards. It came down in the Hyde Park direction, with all three crows still hot on its tail," Headkeeper Hubert Jones told me. "The reason for the attack is unknown, but quite possibly the crows were nesting in trees on the bank of the Regent's Canal, and thought the heron was after their young."

IN THE SOUP

A 15-pound snapping turtle caused its owner to be arrested at Linden, New Jersey, U.S.A., on a disorderly conduct charge; he was arrested for carrying the turtle in a paper carton.

When released on 50 dollars bail he said he was going straight home to make himself some turtle soup!

Monday Adventure, by John Pudney

Continued from page 9

tion was interrupted by a call from Red. The tunnel was coming to an end. Ahead of us was a brightly-lit basin lying beneath steep white cliffs which I took to be the sides of the quarry. There were several sheds, and behind them a big lift-shaft on the cliff-side. This was the only other way out of the quarry, and under the arc lights I could see a lift-cage going up.

Red brought the coffin-boat to the jetty. The mate switched off the engines, and then took my arm as we went ashore. I was marched into a hut and locked in. The windows were barred, the door leading to the other part of the building was not in use, and there was a stout lock on the door by which we entered. The floor was concrete. There was some timber, however, stacked along the joists of the roof, which might come in handy. But for the moment there were other things to think about.

I WENT across to look out of the window. Another coffin-boat, which had been following us along the channel, arrived with a roar of engines. Red and the mate hurried across to the jetty to talk to the crew and to help them tie up. They pointed toward the office, and I knew that they were telling them about me. I guessed that Red had handed over my prison key to

the new arrivals, for he and the mate took no further notice of me. They returned to their own boat, started up, and made off toward the far tunnel entrance.

The newcomers had a full load, and they seemed much more concerned with it than with me. There were three of them—a bearded skipper and two others. They glanced toward the office but they did not bother to come across and inspect me. Most of their attention went toward the gang operating the lift. They called and whistled upward, pointing to their cargo and beckoning the gang to come down and help. Like Red and the mate, they seemed to be working against time.

With much grunting and grumbling the three of them just managed to lift a heavy wooden chest through the hatch of their boat on to the after-deck and from there over the side on to the quay. Then they brought ashore several caskets which were slippery with mud and difficult to handle.

These were followed by bushel fruit-baskets, also heavy and wet, which they began to carry across the quay toward the part of the building next to my prison beyond the locked communicating door. They switched on a light. I ran across to the keyhole for a close-up of what was going on.

To be continued

The Children's Newspaper, July 19, 1952

2 MORE BICYCLES FOR READERS

Here is great news for two CM readers. For their entries in the second of our fortnightly competitions, a jigsaw, Hercules bicycles have been awarded to:

Carole Holmes,
Wylde Green Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
Warwickshire,
and

Michael Pinches,
Kings Lane Cottages,
Coldwaltham,
Sussex.

Ten Consolation awards of 10s. each have been awarded to John Browning, Winchester; Ruth Clarke, nr. Maldon; Elaine Dennis, Holsworthy; Eira Huzzard, Beverley; Mavis Ible, Bristol; Sarah Karslake, Addlestone; Sally Locklin, Newport; Penelope Mayon-White, Rushmere; Alan Sawden, Solihull; Joyce Westby, Chilwell.

Solution: Barn, bridge, carrot, cart, church, cow, gate, goose, milestone, oast-house, signpost, stile, tractor, windmill.

STAMP NEWS

A U.S. stamp commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the famed carvings on Mount Rushmore is to be issued soon. It will show the gigantic heads of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln—all carved out of the solid rock on the mountain-side.

Two new French stamps show the war memorials at Narvik and Bir Hakeim.

THE completion of Saudi-Arabia's Dammam-Riyadh Railway has been celebrated by a set of five, all depicting a camel and a modern engine.

STAMPS have been issued in Italy to mark the centenary of the use of postage stamps in Modena, Parma, and the Vatican.

COUNTRIES which are issuing stamps in honour of the Olympic Games at Helsinki include Finland, Western Germany, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Pakistan, and Trieste.

YOUNG QUIZ



- 1 How long is a metre?
- 2 What two men possibly climbed to the summit of Mount Everest?
- 3 How many events are there in a decathlon?
- 4 Who invented the pattern-making loom?
- 5 A palindrome is an insect, a Greek theatre, or a word that reads the same both ways?
- 6 Where was the first of the modern Olympic Games held?
- 7 What is the Vinegar Bible?
- 8 What does the phrase "in camera" mean?

Answers on page 12

SPORTS SHORTS

BRITAIN'S Olympic party contains four sets of brothers. They are walkers H. and R. Whitlock, swimmers J. and R. Wardrop, who are twins, canoeists R. and F. Prout, and cyclists B. and D. Robinson. Also in the swimming team are Roy and Jean Botham, brother and sister.

JOHN DISLEY, our Olympic steeplechase runner, is an enthusiastic mountaineer, and his ambition is to climb Mount Everest.

TONY FOX, our representative in the sculls, is entirely self-taught; he learned to row as a small boy at the seaside.

ALTHOUGH Britain's Olympic Fund is about twice the sum needed to take the team to Helsinki (some £30,000) our organisers will well be able to use the balance in 1956, when the Olympics will be held in Australia and it will cost about £600 to send each athlete.

THE Finns take their athletics seriously. In 1917, when Finland became a free and democratic country, it had 53,000 athletic clubs and 100 tracks; today it has 450,000 clubs and 500 tracks. Finns do not excel in sprint events, but are justly proud of their record in the distance races—runs like the 5000 and 10,000 metres. They have so far won no fewer than 69 Olympic Gold Medals.

MANY overseas running authorities doubted whether Jim Peters and Stan Cox had actually run the full length in their recent record-breaking Marathon. So the course was checked—and the distance was found to be 260 yards longer than the full Marathon distance.

ARTHUR JEPSON, the Nottinghamshire fast bowler, recently hit 4, 6, 6, 6, 6, in successive balls. This is not a record, though, for Arthur Wellard of Somerset on two occasions hit five successive balls for sixes. The highest score for a six-ball over is 32, made by Cyril Smart of Glamorgan in 1935.

MANY people at Wimbledon commented on the amazingly fast reaction of the Australians in doubles play. The secret probably lies in the fact that one of their training games consists of one player opposing two. It is a case of hit—or be hit.

PHILIP SCRUTTON, 29-year-old amateur golfer, recently won the Berkshire Trophy for the third successive year, making the trophy his own. Next year there would have been no trophy to play for, so Philip has promised to present another.

BECAUSE they objected to the referee in a soccer match at Buenos Aires, players of one side stood still while their opponents scored 71 goals.

MRS. FANNY BLANKERS-KOEN, the Dutch sprinter, was in wonderful form at a meeting at Rotterdam. She equalled her world record of 11 seconds for the 80 metres hurdles; set up a new Dutch record of 23.7 seconds for the 200 metres—a tenth of a second

outside the world record; and set a new world record of 11.4 seconds for the 100 metres.

A FEW years ago the brothers Taylor were the Wolverhampton Wanderers' full backs. Recently, both were appointed to manage well-known clubs, Jack with Queen's Park Rangers, and younger brother Frank with Stoke City. The only other case of manager-brothers are the Seeds—Jimmy of Charlton Athletic and Angus of Barnsley.

THERE is no stopping Eileen Sheridan, the young Coventry cyclist. After setting up new records for the London to Portsmouth and back run, London to Oxford and back, and Birmingham to London, she smashed the 100 miles women's record on the track with an average speed of over 25 miles an hour.

FIFTEEN years ago W. A. Shillibeer set up a new record for the London to Southampton and back ride, but a few weeks ago this record was beaten by Sidney Butcher, of the Norwood Paragon club. He covered the distance in just over 7 hours 12 minutes, beating Shillibeer's time by 38 minutes.

Olympic diver



Ann Long, 15, of the Upper Fifth at Ursuline High School, Ilford, Essex, who is to represent Britain in the highboard and springboard diving events at the Olympic Games.

NOT many cricketers manage to take all 10 wickets in an innings, but 12-year-old fast bowler C. G. Turner, of the Kingwell Court Preparatory School, Bradford-on-Avon, recently performed this feat twice, in consecutive matches. His brilliant bowling gave him 10 for four runs against Braitlea (Bristol) and 10 for 13 against Greenways (Coleford).

ANOTHER recent bowling feat by a schoolboy was that of Brian Rhodes, 14-year-old pupil of the Canvey Secondary Modern School. Playing for South-East Essex Schools against Chelmsford Schools, he had the fine figures of nine wickets for 13 runs. Brian, who has played football for Essex Boys, has also gained his badge with the County schools cricket team.

KNOW-HOW THROUGH SHOW-HOW

According to a recent United Nations report, 75 different countries have benefited from the Technical Assistance Programme which aims to help under-developed nations.

Up to last December, nearly 800 technical experts from 61 countries were at work, while 845 students from backward territories were furthering their studies in more highly developed countries than their own.

In many cases, countries which are receiving help have themselves been able to help other nations. For instance, a date cultivation expert from Iraq has worked in nearby Saudi Arabia, a rural credit expert from Paraguay has helped Honduras, and a Chinese silk cultivator has assisted the silk producers of Afghanistan.

Under the Technical Assistance Programme, backward countries are shown how they can raise living standards by their own efforts. This has been aptly described as a policy of "know-how through show-how."

BRAVE BOY WINS SCHOLARSHIP

The patience and fortitude of 10-year-old John Lincoln of Ferryhill, County Durham, have won him a scholarship in the local grammar school.

He was in hospital suffering from serious burns, and it seemed unlikely that he would be well enough to take the exam; but the matron decided that John should have his chance; and Mrs. D. Grierson, who runs a little school at the hospital, agreed to coach him in the last few weeks.

When the all-important day came, John was moved into a side ward. For two hours he wrote his exam paper, kneeling on a chair to ease the pain from his injuries; in the afternoon he answered questions while lying face downwards in bed.

John passed his exam, and now he is looking forward to the autumn when, fully recovered, he will be wearing his new school cap at the Alderman Wraith School, Spennymoor.

MILK IS GOOD FOR THEM

Experiments undertaken among under-nourished Asian children by the Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef) have shown the value of powdered skim milk as a food supply.

A group of six-year-olds in India who had been given a daily glass of milk for two months were found to have increased one-third of an inch in height and a pound in weight. During the same period a similar group, living only on the normal diet of the area, improved by a mere one-tenth of an inch and a quarter of a pound.

Altogether, some 42 million pounds of the milk have been distributed among various Asian countries where over a million women and children are today receiving a daily ration.

★ **Do you write Poetry?** ★

Here, within the Poetry Society, is the common meeting ground for poetry lovers and verse writers. The Society is now open to receive and welcome boys and girls as Junior Members. The subscription of 5/- per annum covers the new Quarterly Poetry Magazine "The Voice of Youth," in which space is devoted to poems by Junior Members, criticism of their work and answers to their problems. There are many interesting competitions.

For details apply to the Secretary, Poetry Society (largest organisation in the world devoted entirely to poetry). 33 Portman Square, London, W.1.

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THE PERFECTION OF CONFECTIONS

THE BRAN TUB

QUICK LEARNER

TEACHER was taking her class in English. "An anonymous person," she said, "is one who does not wish to be known—who is that I can hear whispering?"

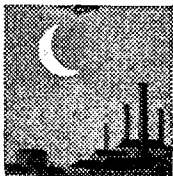
Voice: "An anonymous person."

A big catch

I CAUGHT a big crab,
And it made me quite cross,
For it wasn't the kind
Which you find on the shore.
The crab which I caught,
I regret to relate,
Was the sort which you catch
With the aid of an oar.

OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening Mars and Saturn are in the south-west. In the morning Jupiter is in the east. The picture shows the Moon at seven o'clock on Thursday morning, July 17.



Double meaning

The two missing words are pronounced the same, but have different meanings. What are they?

THE chieftain was of noble —
The natives stopped their yelling.

But what his earnest words could
We had no way of telling.

Mean, mean

BEDTIME CORNER

Billy in the swim

"How long is it before our holidays begin, Mummy?" asked Billy.

"Only two more weeks," said his mother.

Billy looked thoughtful. "How long will it take me to learn to swim?" he asked.

Mummy laughed. "You'll learn soon enough. Now then, run along and have your bath."

Billy skipped off; and ten minutes later Mummy followed him to see that he had washed behind his ears.

What a sight greeted her! There was Billy splashing about in the bath—and water had overflowed everywhere!

"Stop it, Billy!" cried Mummy. "What on earth are you doing?"

"Well, Mummy, if we are going to the seaside in two weeks I haven't much time to learn to swim. So I'm learning from this book."

And he pointed to the book on swimming which he had propped up on the end of the bath.

"Any more lessons in this bath and there won't be a holiday," said Mummy sternly.

So Billy is now going every day to the swimming pool with Daddy, trying to learn to swim before the holidays begin.

SHELL TALK

SHELLS along the sandy shore,
Let us gather more and more.
Pretty things that shine and glisten,

Hold one to your ear, and listen!

Sh! Sh! stormy waves.
Sh! Sh! treasure caves!



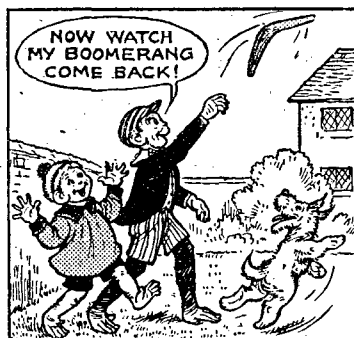
Rosy pink and creamy white,
All around for our delight.
Here is one and here another,
Let us take them home to Mother.

Sh! Sh! pretty shell
Sh! Sh! stories tell.

He prayeth best

He prayeth best who loveth best
All things, both great and small.
Coleridge

JACKO BOOMERANGS THE BOBBY



Jacko had spent many hours learning how to throw a boomerang.



But it seemed that he still had not mastered the art.



But one art he soon mastered was that of dodging angry policemen.

GRASSLANDS ALL

THE grassy plains of North America are called prairies. In Venezuela and Columbia they are called llanos; in Argentine pampas; in Russia steppes; in South Africa the veld; in Brazil campos; and in some tropical lands the savannas.

Help!

THERE was an old hunter from Crewe,
Who dreamt he was tossed by a gnu.
He awoke with a shout,
For he quickly found out,
That his dream had come perfectly true.

Sammy Simple

ON being asked how many seasons there were, Sammy replied: "Two—football and cricket."

Plain speaking

A MAN who had been called upon to serve on a jury asked the judge if he could be excused as he wanted to get back to work.

"I suppose you are one of those people who think they are indispensable," said the judge scornfully.

"No," replied the man, "I know that I'm not indispensable, but I don't want my boss to find out."

"Excused," said the judge.

Vegetable visions



SAID a handsome Cauliflower:
"I have my dreams of course;
I certainly shall not be boiled,
And covered with white sauce.
I shall dress up in the finest
Of satin, fur, and lace.
And with the Flowers of the Land,
Will take my rightful place."

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second, and so on.

1 Asiatic country, also called Nippon; its written history goes back to about 660 B.C.; for 200 years from the early 1600s the country cut itself off from the rest of the world.

2 Syrian city, "Queen of the East," where the disciples first became known as Christians and whence St. Paul set out on the first of his great missionary journeys.

3. Serious epidemic disease common in Europe until the end of the 19th century, when improved sanitation stamped it out; still occurs in India and other Eastern countries.

4 Large bird of the crow family; about 25 inches long, with glossy black feathers and black beak; a few live at the Tower of London.

Answer next week

SECRET CLAN

THE initials of the names in this verse form part of a code. Can you spot the code?

Members of our clan are numbered.

Alan Field is seven;
Janet Wood is thirty-three,
Denis Gray's eleven.
Philip East is twenty-one,
Cynthia Croft is six.
Can you guess the number of
Our leader, Maurice Dix?

Answer next week

YOUNG QUIZ—answers

- 39.37 inches.
- George Mallory and Andrew Irvine, in 1924.
- Ten.
- Joseph Jacquard.
- A word that reads the same both ways (e.g. level).
- In Athens, in 1896.
- It was printed at Geneva in 1717 with the word vinegar instead of vineyard in the parable in Luke 20.
- Privately, in secret.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

AN ODD FISH. Don peered intently into the pool; several small fish, cylindrical in shape, drew his attention. Their olive bodies were not easily seen against the background of seaweed, but their bright eyes helped to reveal their presence.

Occasionally one of the fish would "walk" up the side of the rocky pool with the aid of its finger-like front fin.

"They were smooth blennies or shannies," said Farmer Gray, when told of these odd fish. "There are over two hundred species belonging to the Blenny family, but only a few of them are found in British waters. They have remarkably keen sight, both in and out of the water."

Riddle-my-town

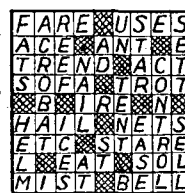
IN rush, not in bustle;
In noise, not in rustle;
In clam, not in mussel;
In white and in heather;
In climate, not weather;
In shoe, not in leather;
In wound, not in worry;
In mustard, not curry—
In Yorkshire, and Surrey.

Answer next week

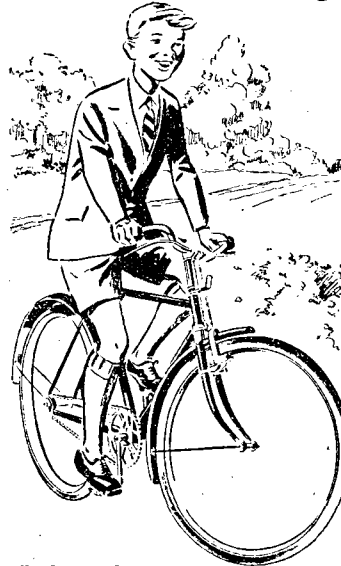
LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Chain Quiz
Kiev, Everest, stag,
Agincourt
Enigma
Many (any, man,
May)

Hidden places
Denbigh
Riddle in rhyme
Seaweed



The Best Bike a boy ever had!

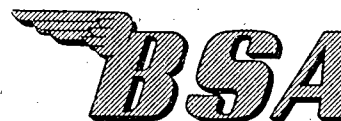


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